

The history of Fenway Studios is intertwined with Boston's own cultural, civic, and social history. The building came into being in 1905 at the height of the Gilded Age, when Boston was the center of American painting. Money for construction of the Fenway Studios was donated by the city's leaders of the day, to create a building to be used solely as artists' working and living space, the first in the country built for artists' use.

Designated as a National Historic

Landmark, the Fenway Studios building, designed in the Arts & Crafts style, is located on Ipswich Street in the Back Bay. It is the oldest continuously functioning building in the country constructed for and dedicated solely to artists' space. The Studios also pioneered a not-for-profit limited-equity form of ownership, maintaining rents at affordable levels but prohibiting artists from profiting from the sale of their units.

Fenway Studios was designed so that every one of the 46 studios would have north-facing windows, 12 feet high, to best capture the light. The studios were inspired by the 19th century atelier studios in Paris, where many of the original artists had studied.



Historically, the Fenway Studios building is associated with the Boston School of Painting, and its early artists were often called American Impressionists, though more realist in style and more classically trained, than the French Impressionists. Many of Boston's most famous artists have lived and worked here, and during its early years, its prominent artists included William Paxton, Edmund Tarbell, Lilian Wescott Hale, Philip Hale, and Mary Bradish Titcomb.

Today, artists who reside at Fenway Studios paint in a variety of styles from abstract expressionism to post-modern realism. Some continue in the Boston School tradition, as well, and teach new generations of artists.

FRIENDS OF FENWAY STUDIOS

Yes, I/we would like to become a member of the Friends of Fenway Studios

- Overseer \$1,000
- \$250
- \$100
- Other _____

Please make checks payable to Friends of Fenway Studios, Inc.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

- Matching gift. My company is _____

Your donation as a member of Friends of Fenway Studios is tax-deductible.

Friends of Fenway Studios is a 501(c)(3) organization, tax ID #04-3448956.



FRIENDS OF FENWAY STUDIOS

The mission of the Friends organization is to preserve and restore Fenway Studios, and to raise public awareness of this architectural gem. Founded in 1998, when the burden of keeping up an aging building became too great for the resident artists, Friends of Fenway Studios was formed as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to help raise necessary funds.

To date, the Friends organization has raised nearly \$750,000 and invested in the building's renewal that included roof replacement, pointing of the entire building, and restoration of the widely recognized façade with its distinctive parapets.

Friends of Fenway Studios is appealing to supporters of the arts for donations to help in the restoration of the all-important façade studio windows and updating of the now antique heating and electrical systems.

All contributions to Friends of Fenway Studios are fully tax-deductible.

FRIENDS OF FENWAY STUDIOS

*Preserving a National Landmark,
Promoting a Boston art and architectural
treasure . . .*



*Dedicated to the
restoration and preservation
of
The Fenway Studios
in Boston's Back Bay*

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